

THE WIDE-AWAKE CIRCLE

Boys' and Girls' Department

1. Write plainly on one side of the paper only, and number the pages.
2. Use pen and ink, not pencil.
3. Short and pointed articles will be given preference. Do not use over 250 words.
4. Original stories or letters only will be used.
5. Write your name, age and address plainly at the bottom of the story.

POETRY.

Billy White.

O Billy White,
A charming sight
You make, as in your coat of snow
And harness gay,
Upon your way
Along the streets you proudly go!

A merry song
Along the road
You put with ringing head held high;
Such shouts of cheer
And jollity
Bring smiles to every passer-by.

Be patient, kind,
Treat hard to find
A playmate gentler, Bill, than you—
You like the fun,
And anyone who
Can see that you like "kiddies" too!

No unkind word
Have you ever heard—
Never known a Billy White;
Twist you and me
That's why, maybe,
To serve them given you such delight!

—Lorella C. Poole.

When the Snow Flies.
Last summer, where I played around,
Accorns lay scattered on the ground.
I put them in a hollow tree
To save them for the squirrels' tea.

For when the winds of winter blow,
And all is covered up with snow,
How can the little squirrels play
If they go hungry all the day?

And squirrels in the hollow tree
Were cracking acorns merrily.
—Mary R. Merriman.

UNCLE JED'S TALK TO WIDE-AWAKES.

How often it is that boys and girls pine for something to do, something to keep their active minds and nimble hands busy, something that will be constructive, a service, a good deed, a new task.

Play figures prominently, of course, in the life of every boy and girl. There is something the matter with the one who doesn't like it. Having fun is a popular desire, and well it may be for it plays an important and beneficial part not only in the days of our youth but in our whole life, though our tastes as to what is fun varies.

I have been well paid that "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." And it might equally well be said that all play and no training in anything else gives him a poor start for the tackling of the problems of later years.

Those who are looking for something to do are not always the sober, sedate little folks. They like fun as well as the next one, and the best of it is they get it, but outside from the sports, the games and other pleasures they also find fun in service, in getting knowledge about the things that the other thing and find real enjoyment in doing satisfactorily what will help others and what will fit them to become better men and women.

The longings for something to do, the desire to construct, to help, to imitate are the manifestations of the yearning for something to do, to determine what line of service, what efforts, what work can be undertaken in the future that will permit of achievement. And in achievement there is to be found the satisfaction of the combination of work and pleasure.

LETTERS OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Eva Burchman, of Norwich—I thank you very much for the book you gave me, "Navy Along." I read it and found it very interesting.

Marjorie Gates, of Gale Ferry—I received the book entitled "Perry, the Scribe" and like it very much. It is one of the nicest books I have ever read. Thank you very much.

WINNERS OF PRIZE BOOKS.

1—Harry Schatz, of Yantic—Boy Scouts in France.

2—Doris Johnson, of Jewett City—Timothy and His Friends.

3—Ovilia Blanchette, of Danielson—The Potter Boys Under Old Glory.

4—Maurice Gahan, of Voluntown—Auto Boy's Vacation.

5—Raymond Woods, of Norwich—in the Camp of the Delawareans.

6—Young Twins, of Sterling—Auto Boy's Adventure.

7—Marjorie Nason, of Mansfield Center—Boy Scouts With Joffre.

8—Helen Swain, of Norwich—The

RAY CHUNGKING BRONCHITIS

NOW WELL AND HAPPY

THIS IS WORTH READING

The experience of Mr. E. J. You-

paluk, 1438 Ross street, LaCrosse,

Wisconsin, is chiefly remarkable

an account of the length of time

he was afflicted.

He writes: "I have been suffer-

ing with chronic bronchitis for

twenty-six years and every winter

I would catch cold and become ho-

arse I could not speak for six or

eight weeks. I could get only tem-

porary relief.

This winter I was taken with

cold and was in a bad shape. A

friend advised me to take

FE-RU-NA. By the time I had

used three bottles of a bottle, the

hoarseness was gone, and this

morning I feel like a new man.

FE-RU-NA is the best medicine ever put for the purpose.

For any disease due to catarrh or catarrhal condition, FE-RU-NA is equally dependable. Coughs, colds, catarrh of the head, stomach trouble, constipation, rheumatism, pains in the back, side and limbs, bloating, belching gas, indigestion, constipation of the large and small intestines, are some of the troubles for which FE-RU-NA is especially recommended.

FE-RU-NA can be purchased anywhere in either tablet or liquid form.

What Shall I Be?
Answered for Girls

The Miller.
BY ELIZABETH WATERS

"Why can't I get enough girls for my shop when millinery is distinctly a woman's business?" the milliner complains.

Is it that girls don't realize that millinery is one of the fine arts and that a knowledge of it is invaluable in the home as well as the shop?

Many girls with artistic ability that are scrambling to beat a man at their own job could find the joy of real creative work in a millinery shop.

The present demand for workers in this trade has made it much easier for a girl to start. Every store of any size pays its beginners a salary now; the big department stores pay a girl \$10 a week for learning the trade. The rest is "up to her."

If she has a natural gift for design plus training in a store or school, her opportunities are numberless and range from the regular "trimmers" in stores to the head designer in a department store.

Even if she wants to be a saleswoman or buyer in millinery the shop-room experience is invaluable. The girl who has made hats has a better idea of what lines are becoming to her customers than any school.

Schools of designs usually place their students in shops. But there is an advantage in handling a wide range of hats, such as a wholesale house or department store offers which cannot be found in any school.

The girl who can combine strong initiative and business ability with skill in design should open a shop of her own, either in a town where she has friends or in the good buying districts of a city. You would be astonished to hear of the humble beginnings of many exclusive Fifth Avenue shops.

The successful milliner is naturally an artist in design as well as a good business woman. In addition, she is

Mary's Oversight.
There was a little girl and her name was Mary Brown. She lived with her mother in a little cottage. Her mother had to work very hard in order to support the house. One day Mary's mother sent her to the store to get some things for the house. When she got to the store and purchased the articles required, she felt in her pockets for the money, but she could not find it anywhere. She did not know what to do, so she told the clerk. He said, "It will be all right, you can pay me some other time." On her way home, Mary felt in her dress pocket, and to her surprise she found the money. She then hurried back to the store and told her mother what had happened.

Her mother said, "You want to look more carefully in your pockets next time."

—ELISIE WARREN, Age 13, Norwich.

My Cat.
I have a cat and she is a pure Jersey. When she was born I took it and said "It is mine." So it was given to me.

I get up and feed it mornings with milk and at night I milk it myself for the milk. She is growing very fast. I forgot to tell you its name is Sylvia. I like her very much. I have three others besides this one. The mother cat has three kittens. I hope to take her to the fair next year. She is in a stall so that when she sticks her head out she can see I can brush her off. She likes it very much.

—MARJORIE NASON, Age 12, Mansfield Center.

A Mischievous Boy.
There was a mischievous boy by the name of Teddy Finn. He was always up to mischief and one day his mother had got him all ready for school and told him not to stop at the store to spend his penny, because if he did he would be late for school.

Now little Teddy did just what his mother had told him not to do. He walked on until he came to the store and he looked right in and bought a chocolate candy and got it all over himself and was late for school.

But now I will tell you the rest of his misdeeds. At that time any child who was late for school was fined five dollars. So Teddy's mother had to pay the fine and Teddy was sorry for his mother and asked for forgiveness and has been a good boy ever since.

—FLORENCE CLARK, Age 12, New London.

My Pumpkin Vine.
One day I found a little plant in the path of my father's greenhouse which I took for a squash plant. I transplanted it among my other squashes, for I had a very garden. Many other boys and girls had.

As the summer wore on it grew bigger and bigger until in the fall it covered 100 square feet or more and 24 bright yellow pumpkins had been formed, as I later found them to be pumpkins instead of squashes.

My father and I went to the county fair and received first prize.

—REYNALD AVERY, Age 8, Norwich Town.

How I Saved the Cat.
Two years ago this winter I was sitting up side of the stove and a little kitten came up to my window and I let her in and gave her something to eat and she slept for two days and nights.

We thought she was a lazy cat, but one morning when she awoke she was full of fun, and I had much fun with her. When I would run she would run after me, and we had a very good time.

I would take a string and play with her and I would hide and she would come and find me. Her name is Pansy.

—BESSIE LALIBERTE, Age 10, Glasgow.

Sneezing.
Have you ever heard anyone exclaim "God bless you" after another person has sneezed? This custom of saluting after a sneeze is very ancient and prevails in all parts of the world.

Some attribute the origin of the custom to the Jews. They claim that when a person sneezes, he is actually uttering a short benediction to be used at such times. The Jews claim that before Jacob never sneezed and when he did, he said, "God bless you." It is said, was the first man to die a natural death; before that all men died by sneezing.

When a king of Monomotapa sneezed those near him salute him so loudly that he could hear it in an adjoining room and he would join in the salute; then those in other rooms heard the noise, and also join until the noise reaches the streets and is carried all around the town!

In another country when a king sneezes his courtiers immediately slap their right thigh. It is interesting to note that such an ordinary occurrence as a sneeze has been the subject of much superstition from the earliest days, in all places and among all nations.

—LEO GRUBSKY, Age 9.

The Boy Who Did Not Want to Go to Bed.
Once there was a little boy who did not want to go to bed. So one night his mother said to him, "Go to bed now. Then he was glad, and began to play with his toys.

But after a while he got tired of his toys and took his teddy bear and picture book and got up in a big chair to rest.

At last he fell asleep, but a little man came and woke him, saying "Wake up, you must not go to sleep; you were going to stay up all night."

The boy said, "I was looking at my picture book. I was not asleep."

After a while he fell asleep again but the little man came again and said, "You are going to stay up all night, and he stuck his pointed stick into the boy's arm.

"Oh, how you hurt me!" cried the boy. His mother heard him crying and came in running in and asked him what was the matter. Then he opened his eyes and saw his mother and he cried, "Oh, mother, the little man said I was going to stay up all night, and he stuck his pointed stick into my arm."

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—FREDERICK MELT, Age 11, Versailles.

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"A big engineer I once knew said, 'drafting is the universal language by which the designer conveys instructions to the workman.' It is the method by which the men who make the plans for a piece of work lay out all the details of that work and then pass on to the men on the job instructions down to the smallest detail as to just how it is to be carried out."

"Every big plant has a corps of draftsmen. Many of these men merely carry out plans or trace drafts prepared by other persons. You want to get into the designing end. There you will work out new sets of plans for the making of machines or the building of various sorts of structures."

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"It will mean a long, hard grind of school. I can afford to send you to a technical school. You ought to go about four years. Of course, you can get a job as a draftsman with less schooling than that. Some fellows have to take their training in a night school or a trade school. They make just about as good draftsmen as you would."

The Oldest House in Kingston.
Oct. 17, 1777, General Vaughn sailed up the Hudson river and burned the town of Kingston. This town had been a Dutch colony long before the war of Orange, now Albany. It became an American colony. Kingston had once been called Writikong, an old Indian name. It has a large wall around it. There are two very old houses there, the first United States senate and the home of the Van Stinchburg family. They burned the first house. The second one was not touched because the British officer was in love with the young widow who lived there. She rescued him by marrying an American.

I had the pleasure of living in this house in Kingston. It was a very beautiful place. It had a large fireplace and large beams of wood in the ceiling. Outside it had all kinds of fruit trees and flower bushes and lawns. It was a large wall around it. The door opened in two parts.

All people who visit Kingston visit the senate house and the old past the old Van Stinchburg house.

—DORIS JOHNSON, Age 12, Jewett City.

The Dog and His Shadow.
A dog was once carrying home a fine piece of meat. On his way he had to cross a bridge over a little river. He looked down and saw his shadow there.

He thought it was another dog with a larger piece of meat. He dropped his piece and jumped into the water to get the other piece of meat.

But there was no dog there. His meat fell to the bottom, where he could not get it, and he had to go without his dinner.

—LEO BELISLE, Taftville.

Building a Box Kite.
BY G. M. RYAN

Although almost any boy feels capable of building a kite or a balloon, the art of building a box kite is not so easy. The simplicity of the design depends upon placing the sticks edgewise to as to take advantage of their greater crosswise strength and to reduce the number required. With proper joints, as shown, the kite will be as stiff as if it contained many more sticks and braces.

The sticks for the kite should all be 1/4-inch wide by 1/4-inch thick and of straight-grained white pine. The four main frame sticks (B, F, H, J) should each be about 34 inches long. For cross braces you will need four more sticks, each 2 1/2 inches long. In each end of each cross brace cut a notch, 1/4-inch wide by 1/4-inch deep, as shown in "Detail of Joint." Before putting the sticks together, the cross braces should be placed 4 1/2 inches from the ends of the long sticks.

The sail should be made of two pieces of light cloth each 10 by 65 inches.

Stretching a Kite.
To stretch each sail in place, first tack it to the edge of B; then tack it to the edge of H, bringing the sticks 16 inches apart. Carry it over and tack it to F, 16 inches from H, then to F and back to B.

For the kite line, fasten one cord to each end of the long stick B, and bring the two cords together to fasten to the kite line about 4 feet from the end.

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Katy's Pet.
Katy was a small girl of nine. Her father was a rich man, and Katy lived in a nice house.

One day she went out and met a man who was kind to her. He took her to see his house in New York. It was in the house a large cat started to attack her, but the man stopped it. Behind the cat was a whole family of small kittens.

Katy started playing with them and the man said: "Would you like a little kitten?" She wanted one, so she said "Oh, yes, I would like one, if you can spare one."

The man said he could spare one, so Katy took one home. Her mother let her keep it, so she put it in a small room and had a lot of fun with it.

This is how Katy got a kitten to play with.

—EDWARD LISTER, Age 11, Plainfield.

Trip to New York and Hoboken.
I would like to tell you about my trip to New York and Hoboken. I went with my father and mother. We left New London early in the afternoon and arrived in New York at 9 o'clock at night. Going through the Grand Central station, I saw the biggest United States flag in the world. It was hung from the top of the station. When we got outside we took a taxi and got off at the entrance of the Hudson tube. Going down a long line of stairs we arrived at the bottom of the tube just in time to catch a train to Hoboken.

I thought we were flying there so fast and smooth. But when we arrived on the other side of the Hudson river, we rode about five minutes and arrived at my aunt's without accident. The next day my father took me to the Hippodrome theatre and that ended my trip.

—PRISCILLA KRODEL, Age 12, Taftville.

The Oldest House in Kingston.
Oct. 17, 1777, General Vaughn sailed up the Hudson river and burned the town of Kingston. This town had been a Dutch colony long before the war of Orange, now Albany. It became an American colony. Kingston had once been called Writikong, an old Indian name. It has a large wall around it. There are two very old houses there, the first United States senate and the home of the Van Stinchburg family. They burned the first house. The second one was not touched because the British officer was in love with the young widow who lived there. She rescued him by marrying an American.

I had the pleasure of living in this house in Kingston. It was a very beautiful place. It had a large fireplace and large beams of wood in the ceiling. Outside it had all kinds of fruit trees and flower bushes and lawns. It was a large wall around it. The door opened in two parts.

All people who visit Kingston visit the senate house and the old past the old Van Stinchburg house.

—DORIS JOHNSON, Age 12, Jewett City.

The Dog and His Shadow.
A dog was once carrying home a fine piece of meat. On his way he had to cross a bridge over a little river. He looked down and saw his shadow there.

He thought it was another dog with a larger piece of meat. He dropped his piece and jumped into the water to get the other piece of meat.

But there was no dog there. His meat fell to the bottom, where he could not get it, and he had to go without his dinner.

—LEO BELISLE, Taftville.

Building a Box Kite.
BY G. M. RYAN

Although almost any boy feels capable of building a kite or a balloon, the art of building a box kite is not so easy. The simplicity of the design depends upon placing the sticks edgewise to as to take advantage of their greater crosswise strength and to reduce the number required. With proper joints, as shown, the kite will be as stiff as if it contained many more sticks and braces.

The sticks for the kite should all be 1/4-inch wide by 1/4-inch thick and of straight-grained white pine. The four main frame sticks (B, F, H, J) should each be about 34 inches long. For cross braces you will need four more sticks, each 2 1/2 inches long. In each end of each cross brace cut a notch, 1/4-inch wide by 1/4-inch deep, as shown in "Detail of Joint." Before putting the sticks together, the cross braces should be placed 4 1/2 inches from the ends of the long sticks.

The sail should be made of two pieces of light cloth each 10 by 65 inches.

Stretching a Kite.
To stretch each sail in place, first tack it to the edge of B; then tack it to the edge of H, bringing the sticks 16 inches apart. Carry it over and tack it to F, 16 inches from H, then to F and back to B.

For the kite line, fasten one cord to each end of the long stick B, and bring the two cords together to fasten to the kite line about 4 feet from the end.

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